

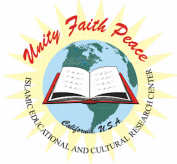
In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Prayers and Peace upon His Noble Messenger ﷺ

Islamic Educational & Cultural Research Center

CALIFORNIA, USA

A non-profit, non-political organization



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A TRIBUTE TO HAZRAT SYEDA FATIMA ZAHRA, BLESSED MOTHER OF HAZRAT SYEDA ZAYNAB

رضي الله عنها

It is related in the famous book *Khasais-e-Kubra* of Hazrat Allama Jalaluddin Suyuti (b. 1445 CE, may Allah have mercy on him) that the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Countless Prayers and Peace Be Upon Him, His Blessed Family and Noble Companions) said:

"No person is a believer unless they love the People of my Household [Ahle Bayt] for my sake and for the sake of Allah Almighty."

In another Hadeeth, Hazrat Abu Dharr (may Allah be pleased with him) said that the Holy Prophet ﷺ said:

"My family among you is like Noah's ark. He who sails on it will be safe, but he who holds back from it will perish."

Further, the Holy Prophet ﷺ said about Hazrat Fatima Zahra (may Allah be pleased with her):

"She is a piece of my body. Whoever hurts her has hurt me." [Bukhari Shareef]

Today the pen is raised for the mention of that Pure Personality who is known as "Jaane Ahmed ﷺ." She is that pure personality who received the title of *Khatoone Jannat* [Lady of Paradise] during the lifetime of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and whom the world knows as

Hazrat Syeda Fatima Zahra رضي الله عنها. She had the honor of being the most beloved daughter of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

*Syeda Tayyeba Abida Zahida
Yani Khatoone Jannat pe lakhon salam*

In the words of Hazrat Maulana Hasan Raza, brother of the great *Mujaddid* [Renewer of the religion] of this century, Ala Hazrat (may Allah have mercy on them both) said in her greatness:

*Jin ke ghar bejizat jibril aate nahin
Qadar vaale jaante hain qadre Ahle Bayt*

Hazrat Fatima رضي الله عنها was the youngest daughter of the Holy Prophet ﷺ. Her mother's name was Hazrat Khadija Kubra رضي الله عنها. The Holy Prophet ﷺ received revelation in the 40th year and in the 41st year Hazrat Fatima's رضي الله عنها blessed birth further adorned the Blessed Household.

Hazrat Khadija رضي الله عنها said that the good news of the arrival of this blessed daughter had been given to her beforehand that the pure personality whom she was going to give birth to is going to be the leader of the women of Paradise.

Some of the famous laurels awarded to Hazrat Fatima رضي الله عنها are *Batool*, *Zahra*, *Tayyeba*, *Tahira*, and *Zakiya*. She is called *Batool* because throughout her lifetime she did not love this world and adopted independence from it. The titles *Zahra*, *Tayyeba*, and *Tahira* reveal her purity. Such purity has not and will not be

*Welcome to the 2nd Annual IECRC
Women's Milad Shareef Conference
dedicated to
Hazrat Syeda Zaynab bint Ali*

رضي الله عنهما

received by any woman in the world! Hazrat Fatima رضي الله عنها was kept pure by Allah Almighty from menstrual blood and lochia all her life. The Holy Prophet ﷺ said:

*"My daughter Fatima رضي الله عنها
is a human hoori whom
Allah has kept free from
menses and lochia."*

Hazrat Syeda Fatima رضي الله عنها received the blessed name "Fatima" because the Holy Prophet ﷺ said that Allah has kept her away from hell. The Holy Prophet ﷺ further said:

*"Those who love her, Allah
will keep them away from
the hellfire."*

As long as she lived with her respected Father ﷺ, she helped Him ﷺ. She helped Him ﷺ in many of the battles and tended to His ﷺ wounds with her blessed hands. Whenever the disbelievers placed obstacles and caused her Father ﷺ pain, she helped Him ﷺ despite her young age. In many instances she would cry witnessing the pain of her Blessed Father ﷺ.

She was married after the Battle of Badr in the holy month of Ramadan to Hazrat Ali رضي الله عنه. According to narrations, she was 15 years old and Hazrat Ali رضي الله عنه was 21 or 22 years

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old. *Khatoone Jannat's* status can be known by the fact that her message of marriage was sent by Allah Almighty through Hazrat Jibreel (peace be upon him). Hazrat

Anas رضي الله عنه says that he was in the Company of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and Hazrat

Jibreel عليه السلام arrived with Allah Almighty's Message. The Holy Prophet ﷺ turned to Hazrat Anas رضي الله عنه and said "Marry Fatima رضي الله عنها to

Hazrat Ali رضي الله عنه." All the other Companions were also present. *Kitabun Nikah of Ibn Majah* relates that all the preparations for the marriage of Hazrat Fatima رضي الله عنها

were done by Hazrat Aysha رضي الله عنها. Hazrat Aysha رضي الله عنها said that, "I have not seen a wedding better than the wedding of Hazrat Fatima

رضي الله عنها."

(continued on next page)

Hazrat Fatima's ﷺ Prophet ﷺ!

marriage was the only marriage in which the most number of angels attended. It is related in the famous book *Shahnamae Islam* that her dowry from the Holy Prophet ﷺ was one small bed, two wheat grinding mills, two earthen jars, one leather cushion filled with date-palm leaves, and one small water carrier.

*Mila tha faqr-o-faqa ka asli jahez unko
Ke bakshi thi Khuda ne ek jabeene sajda rez unko
Chaleen theen Aap ke ghar se Nabi ﷺ ki laadli beti
Haya ki chadar sabr ke gehme*

*Ridae sabr bhi haasil thi Sayyida Fatima ﷺ ko
Ke hona tha unhein Sartaje Khatoone Jannat bhi*

There is a very heart-moving narration regarding the *Mehr* (gift given to the bride by the groom at the time of marriage) of

Hazrat Fatima ﷺ that was revealed at the time of her passing away. Being the great personality that she was, she had been given the knowledge of her leaving this worldly abode. She called her

respected husband Hazrat Ali ﷺ and expressed her desire for this very special piece of paper to be placed with her when she was laid to rest. When Hazrat Ali ﷺ enquired about the history of this paper she went on to say that when she was being

married to Hazrat Ali ﷺ, her Blessed Father, the Holy Prophet ﷺ asked her if

Hazrat Ali ﷺ was acceptable to her. She said that her husband to-be was acceptable but the *Mehr* was not. At this instance Haz-

rat Jibreel ﷺ came and said that Allah Almighty is offering the entire Paradise as her *Mehr*. She respectfully said that even

this is not sufficient. Hazrat Jibreel ﷺ went back to Allah Almighty and returned with the Message that the Holy Prophet ﷺ

may ask His Beloved daughter and she would be granted whatever she wishes for her *Mehr*. When the Holy Prophet ﷺ asked her what she wanted for her *Mehr*, she replied, "All my life I have seen You ﷺ crying for your people [Ummat]. I would like my *Mehr* to be the forgiveness [bakhshish] of your Ummat." At this juncture Hazrat

Jibreel ﷺ came with this piece of paper which said, "O Muhammad ﷺ! I have

made Fatima's ﷺ *Mehr* the forgiveness of the Ummat-e-Muhammadiya." Subhan Allah! What a great reflection of the Holy

Prophet ﷺ!

All her life Hazrat Fatima ﷺ lived with patience and gratitude. Once Hazrat Ali

ﷺ brought home some spoils of a battle and Hazrat Fatima ﷺ made two silver bracelets and a curtain for their home. When the Holy Prophet ﷺ saw this, He ﷺ returned from their home without saying

anything. Hazrat Fatima ﷺ immediately understood what had displeased her Blessed Father ﷺ. She immediately gave away these items in charity. Subhan Allah what simplicity in the home of the Leader of the women of Paradise!

Allah Almighty bestowed Hazrat Fatima ﷺ with uncountable miracles. Her entire life was a miracle. One famous miracle was related to her Blessed *Chador* (shawl).

It is related that once Hazrat Ali ﷺ came home and found that there was no food and his blessed wife and children were starving. Hazrat Fatima ﷺ said, "I am the daughter of the Holy Prophet ﷺ. Take my *Chador* and pawn it with this Jew."

Hazrat Ali ﷺ did so and brought home some wheat for Hazrat Fatima ﷺ to grind and feed the family. That night the wife of the Jew, who had thought that this was an ordinary shawl, saw bright light coming from it and from their entire home. They immediately realized that this was no ordinary shawl and neither was its owner. They went to the home of the Beloved Daughter of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and apologized for their mistake and both the Jew and his wife accepted Islam!

As mentioned earlier Hazrat Fatima ﷺ had already been given the knowledge of her leaving this ephemeral world. When she learnt of this, she did all of her household chores, gave showers to her children, cooked for her husband, and then informed him that it is time for their separation.

When Hazrat Ali ﷺ asked her how she knew, she said that she had a dream in which the Holy Prophet ﷺ was beckoning her saying that Heaven is eager to meet her. Subhan Allah! She said, "O Ali ﷺ these are my last moments." She kissed her children, took them to the *Roza Mubarak* of

the Holy Prophet ﷺ. She performed the major ablution [*ghusl*], wore clean clothes, faced the Holy Kaba and placed her right hand under her cheeks. Hazrat Asma bint

Umayr ﷺ was her handmaid whom she gave special instructions. Hazrat

Asma ﷺ said that Hazrat Fatima ﷺ requested to be by herself to say some special words to her Lord. Hazrat Asma

ﷺ then heard Hazrat Fatima ﷺ crying, "Oh my Lord! Have mercy on the sinning members of the Ummat of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and forgive them." This was her last prayer. Subhan Allah! How fortunate we are to have a mother like her! She also instructed that no one except her husband should perform her *ghusl* and that during her burial full respect must be

observed of modesty [*pardah*]. She ﷺ said that modesty on the face of women is sweeter than honey. It is written in the *Khasaise Kubra* that the Holy Prophet ﷺ said, "First I will come out of my resting place on the Day of Judgment and then my daughter." In another Hadeeth He ﷺ said,

"My daughter Fatima ﷺ will cover the Pul Sirat wearing a green chador. The people in the Mehshar will be commanded to lower their gaze that the leader of the women of Paradise Hazrat Fatima ﷺ is passing through."

Allah Almighty blessed her with Hazrat Imam Hasan, Imam Husayn, Hazrat Muhassan, Hazrat Bibi Umme Kulthum and Hazrat Bibi Zaynab (may Allah Almighty be well pleased with them all.) Each of them are shining stars as in the

eloquent words of Ala Hazrat ﷺ:
*Teri Nasle pak mein hain bachcha bachcha Noor ka
Tu hai ayne Noor Tera sab gharana Noor ka*

May Allah Almighty grant us a portion of the Purity & Pleasure of Allah that was

bestowed to Hazrat Fatima ﷺ. May Allah grant us a portion of the tears that she shed in the grief of the Hereafter. May Allah grant us the guidance [*taufeeq*] to recite the Holy Quran like she did. Peace be upon the Pure & Pious Personality of

Hazrat Fatima ﷺ & upon the Beloved of Allah, Hazrat Muhammad Mustafa ﷺ.
*Wa salaamun 'alal Mursaleen.
Wal hamdulil Lahir Rabbil 'Aalameen.* □

Syeda Zille Humma Qadri

Allah *subhaanahu wa ta'aala* says in His Noble Quran:

"... Allah only wills to remove all impurity from you, O the People of the Household, and by cleansing you make you utterly pure." [The Holy Quran, 33:33]

The Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

"When I am loved, then my family members, whom I love should also be loved."

[Tirmidhi Shareef]

RESPONDING TO TRIBULATIONS IN OUR CURRENT TIMES

Immensely Blessed is He in Whose control is the entire Kingdom, and He has authority over everything. He, Who has created death and life that He might test you, as to whose work, is excellent among you. And He is the Esteemed One the Forgiving. [The Holy Quran 67:1-2]

It is clear from the aforementioned blessed verse of the Holy Quran that trials and hardships that face the human condition in the form of tests from Allah Almighty are a part and a parcel of His Divine Plan on this earth. Who has not experienced some type of hardship in life, be it in the form of loss of a loved one, loss of one's health, or wealth. The question then arises: what is the purpose of the test? Is it ultimate harm or ultimate good? The answer lies in the same verse above. It is to see how one responds to the test. Whether the ultimate result of the test is harm or good depends on one's own response to it. Does one exhibit patience (*sabr*) recognizing that the test is from the Almighty, Loving Creator and therefore can only carry goodness in it despite the apparent signs of harm? Does one express gratitude (*shukr*) to Allah Almighty appreciating the fact that one was considered worthy of such a weighty examination? Does one appreciate the fact that this opportunity for reflection (*tafakkur*), purification (*tazkiya*), repentance (*tauba*) and seeking forgiveness (*istaghfar*) will make a better, stronger person out of us? Or does one simply complain about the outward temporary losses not being able to see Allah Almighty's Wisdom?

One simply has to turn the pages of history and observe the lives of the greatest people who have walked this earth - the Prophets (peace be upon them all), and the Saints (*Awliya* - may Allah Almighty be pleased with them and have mercy on them all) to see that when Allah Almighty wishes to grant His knowledge (*marifat*) & closeness (*qurbat*) to His servants, He Almighty sends

hardships. One must remember, however, that the Prophets and Saints are Allah Almighty's chosen people and their role on this earth is that of guiding the common folk. Therefore, the hardships they face are instructional for others and for the purpose of increasing them in infinite spiritual ranks with their Creator. The Crown of the Saints, Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani (b. 1077 CE, may Allah be pleased with him) says in his famous *Sirr-ul-Asraar*, "Allah created the spirit (*roohi*) in the finest formation in the realm of Divinity. Then He wished to reduce it to the lowest of the low, for the purpose of increasing intimacy and nearness."

The Most Beloved of Allah Almighty, the Crown of creation, the Cause of creation, the First Creation, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Countless Prayers and Peace Be Upon Him, His Pure Family & Noble Companions) led a life on this earth to guide and teach us the desired response during hardships. He ﷺ, from whose Primordial Light (*Noor*) the rest of the world was created [Hadeeth Jabir], buried all of His ﷺ children except one. He ﷺ, who received keys to the unseen (*ghayb*) [Sahih Bukhari] faced immense difficulties during the three year boycott of the Quraysh when He ﷺ was spreading the Message of Truth. He ﷺ, who distributes what Allah Almighty gives [Sahih Bukhari & Sahih Muslim] slept on a straw mat, and tied stones to His ﷺ Blessed Stomach to suppress the pangs of hunger! Can we even dare to complain of our petty losses knowing what the Best of creation ﷺ experienced so that He ﷺ may deliver the Message of Allah Almighty for our guidance & purification?

The pious Hazrat Syeda Zaynab رضي الله عنها, the beloved grand-daughter of the Holy Prophet ﷺ experienced so many hard-

ships in her life that she earned the title of *Ummul Masaib*, the "Mother of Hardships." When she was six years old, her beloved Grandfather - our Beloved Holy Prophet ﷺ, who had honored her with the name Zaynab and placed His Blessed Saliva in her mouth, passed onto the Realm of Divine Beatitude. Six months later, her blessed mother Hazrat Syeda Fatima Zahra رضي الله عنها too joined her Blessed Father ﷺ. Upon reaching early adulthood, she witnessed the martyrdom of her beloved & respected father, Hazrat Ali رضي الله عنه. Ten years later she witnessed the martyrdom of her dear brother Hazrat Imam Hasan رضي الله عنه. And on the battlefield of Karbala, she lost her dear brother Hazrat Imam Husayn رضي الله عنه and nearly the rest of her entire family. However, in the face of such immense hardships she always stood tall for the Truth against the wrong-doers. Her words of fortitude, courage, and resilience reverberate the passageways of history providing inspiration to both women & men today.

There is a famous narration regarding the great 8th century CE Saint Hazrat Rabia Basri رضي الله عنها regarding the response to hardships. A Saint was asked about how one should respond to hardships and he said, "with patience (*sabr*)". Another Saint was asked the same question and he replied, "with gratitude (*shukr*)". When Hazrat Rabia رضي الله عنها was asked the very same question, she said that one should be so engrossed in love (*ishq*) for Allah Almighty and His Messenger ﷺ that one cannot even see the hardship!

It is clear from the writings and sayings of all the great scholars and saints that the foremost response to hardships in life is patience. Indeed Allah Almighty Himself

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IECRC USA 2ND ANNUAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. Syeda Saiqa Zubeda

*Canadian Women Counselling Centre
Surrey, BC, Canada*

Dr. Syeda is currently working as Career Counselor and Job club facilitator for the government funded employment program at the Progressive Intercultural Services Society (PICS) in British Columbia, Canada. Prior to this, Dr. Syeda worked as the Principal of the Canadian Institute of Islamic Sciences, Toronto for three years. Dr. Syeda obtained her Ph.D. in Political Sociology, in which she studied comparative analysis of Western and Islamic Political Sociology. She was awarded two gold medals from the University of Karachi, Pakistan. Dr. Syeda is the author of five books and contributes her services and writings to the Canadian Women Counseling Centre (CWCC) in British Columbia and the Islamic Educational & Cultural Research Center (IECRC) in California on a regular basis. She can be reached at cwcc04@yahoo.ca.

Sister Nada Adams

*Association of Islamic Charitable Projects
New West Minster, BC, Canada*

Since 1986, Sister Nada began learning and practicing Islam. By 1990, she officially dedicated her life and time to teaching authentic Islam – the Creed of *Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'ah*. A native of Tripoli, Lebanon, Nada and her family immigrated to Canada at a young age. She grew up in Mission, BC Canada most of her life. She has spoken to thousands of people in the last 20 years – explaining *Towhid* using textual and logical proofs and by the mercy of Allah, many have embraced Islam through her teaching. Her strength and passion in the knowledge of *Towhid* is sought after for in debates, public speaking and one on one. Her knowledge comprises of "The Personal Obligatory Knowledge of Islam." She has studied from teachers of Al-Azhar Egypt and Al-Azhar Syria, Yemen & Lebanon. She can be reached at VipResultsCoaching@gmail.com

Syeda Zille Humma Qadri

*Islamic Educational & Cultural Research Center
Fremont, California*

Syeda Zille Humma Qadri received her Bachelors in Chemistry from PECHS Women's College. She completed her Islamic education at the Islamic Missionary University in Karachi where she studied Hanafi Fiqh, Science of Hadeeth, Tasawwuf, History, and other Islamic topics. Syeda Qadri delivered her first lecture at the age of 9 years on the topic of Allama Iqbal (may Allah be pleased with him), which began her career as a public speaker. She is the recipient of many awards and trophies in literary endeavors throughout her school and college life. She has participated in and conducted literary debates and trained numerous youth in the area of public speaking. Her articles have also been published in Dawn & Jang, two of the largest newspapers in Pakistan. Currently, Syeda Qadri is a research scholar for IECRC, and Chairperson of its Women's Committee. She conducts monthly spiritual and educational gatherings for women and children and is a guest speaker at various religious events. She is an active mother of three young children and lives with her husband and children in Hayward, California.

Sister Sohab Hamdani

*Hamdani Brothers Foundation
El Cerrito, California*

Sister Sohab Hamdani hails from Pakistan. She received her Masters in Chemistry from Karachi University with first class distinction. Sister Sohab's interest in radio and television began at a very young age when she was in Grade 8 and debuted her radio services at the Chittagong Radio Station. She continued to render her services to Radio Pakistan for 10 years. She also directed plays on important issues such as great Muslim women at Pindi Television and for an extended period of time in Karachi where she worked as an artist on lead characters. She has been in the US for almost 3 decades and has participated in many cultural and patriotic programs. She currently hosts "Watn Ki Awaaz," a Pakistan Association radio show that airs every Sat-

urday at 3pm. She is the mother of three adult children in whom together with her late husband Prof. Jahangir Hamdani, she has instilled love for the Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) and love for her country, Pakistan. Their family started and run the Hamdani Brothers Foundation whose goal is to further the true message of Islam. She is currently District Manager at Avon where she has been employed for the past 15 years.

Sister Jasmine Bath

*Islamic Center of Yuba City
Yuba City, California*

Sister Jasmine received her B.A. in Humanities and Religious Studies from California State University, Sacramento. Thus, she has a very strong background in not only Islam, but Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, and many other religions as well. This thirst for religious knowledge and spiritual fulfillment has led her to *Dawate Islami* and she is currently under the spiritual guidance of Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadri (*Damat Barakatahumul Aliya*). Jasmine devotes much of her time to studying Islam and is in search of a good Qadri-based Islamic school or studies program through which she can further her Islamic knowledge. Jasmine is also very active in her hometown of Yuba City. She was a large part of the local Sunday school and is also actively involved in the organization of the Yuba City Islamic Center's Annual Women's Milad Shareef. □

IECRC THANKS ALL OF ITS RESPECTED GUESTS FOR THEIR VALUABLE TIME AND PARTICIPATION IN THIS NOBLE EVENT.

CWCC & IECRC CANADA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE REPORT



The Canadian Women Counselling Centre in conjunction with the Islamic Educational & Cultural Center, Canada organized its 2nd Annual Women's Conference on the occasion of *Eid Milad-un-Nabi* ﷺ on Friday April 6, 2007 at the well-known Kwantlen College in Surrey, British Columbia. The topic of the Conference was "The Life of Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him); Message of Peace, Tolerance and Intercultural Relationship". About 250 women attended the Conference from all walks of life and numerous countries around the globe representing Islam's multicultural nature.

The purpose & message of this annual Conference as articulated by the Executive Director of CWCC, Dr. Syeda Saiqa Zubeda, is to unite Muslims in their interactions with each other and with the wider Canadian community on the personality of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him), who is considered not just by Muslims as a "Mercy to the Worlds" but also by Western research as the most effective leader in world history (Hart, [The 100: A Ranking Of The Most Influential Persons In History](#)). Dr. Syeda further mentioned that CWCC's efforts in the coordination of these conferences is to focus on women and youth as these two segments of the population hold the most potential for positive change in any community. She emphasized that it is crucial that Muslims maintain their values and culture and make efforts to transfer it to coming generations.

Among those presenting were Ms. Alexia

Soukas, MA in Counseling Psychology, from the Adler School of Psychology; Sister Shemeema, teacher at CWCC Youth Orientation Program; Sister Nada, representative from AICP; and sisters from IECRC California, USA: Sister Zille Humma Qadri, Chairperson, Women's Committee, IECRC; Sister



Fatima Sharaaz Qadri, IECRC Sacramento Chapter, and Sister Shagufta Ahmad Qadri. Ms. Soukas shared a PowerPoint presentation on "Therapeutic needs of Muslim Women" outlining the unique needs of women from countries with majority Muslim populations. The presentation included techniques that Dr. Syeda uses in her counseling of Muslim Canadian women in Surrey. Sister Shemeema shared her personal experiences on her conversion to Islam and advised the audience to treasure their time and use it to perform good deeds for all of humanity. Sister Nada of the AICP shared her knowledge on the Islamic belief of the Oneness of God and the great events that surrounded the blessed birth of the Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him). Sister Shagufta accounted the history of the *Milad Shareef*, explaining how contrary to some modern misguided beliefs, it was conducted not just by the Companions of the Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him), but by the Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) and Allah Almighty Himself. Sister Fatima of IECRC Sacramento, California spoke on the theme of the Conference informing the audience of the diverse and merciful nature of Islam epitomized by its foundational figure, the Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him). She narrated moving incidents on how the teachings and actions of the Last Messenger ﷺ to mankind have benefited and continue

to benefit both Muslims and those of other faiths. Sister Zille Humma gave a moving speech on the miracles of the Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) whose entire being was a miracle and sign from Allah to show his unique position with the Creator.

There was a group poetry recitation led by Sister Adiba Iqbal on the traditional "Daf" of the famous "Burdah Shareef" (Poem of the Cloak) of the great Egyptian scholar and Saint of the 13th century CE, Hazrat Imam Shareefuddin Busiri (may Allah have mercy on him). The presentation was very well received representing 5 languages: Arabic



(the original language of the poem), Farsi, Urdu, Saraiki & English.

Among the youth presentations were those of Sister Roha who gave a very informative PowerPoint presentation on the life of the Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him). There was another presentation prepared by Brother Ahmed Rana and introduced by Sister Anam showing clips from 58 Muslim countries around the world with Muslim populations representing Islam's multicultural nature.

The evening ended with the Salutation (*Salat-o-Salaam*) to the Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) and food was served at the end of the program. Dr. Syeda compered the entire Conference and ended with a vote of thanks to all those who attended and helped organize this very successful event. □

(continued from page 3) commands us in the Holy Quran to seek help from prayer and patience. [Al-Quran, 2:45] As Hazrat Syeda Zaynab's ^{رضي الله عنها} blessed father, the Gate of Knowledge (*Babul-'Ilm*), from whom she directly learnt, Hazrat Ali ^{رضي الله عنه} writes in his famous *Najhatul Balagha* that the relationship of patience (*sabr*) to faith (*iman*) is like that of the head to the body. He ^{رضي الله عنه} further says as is reported in the famous *Kashful Mahjoob* of the 11th century CE scholar and Saint, Hazrat Daata Ganj Baksh ^{رحمته الله} that, "I have recognized my Lord (*marifat*) in the breaking of plans."

Allah Almighty also states in the Holy

Quran that He appreciates gratitude [Al-Quran, 4:147] The scholars have said that one must say "Alhamdulillah 'alaa kulli haal," i.e. all praises are to Allah Almighty in every condition. When one adopts such a response to one's hardships then the angels pray for one's forgiveness and deliverance. Whether Allah Almighty has given us an apparent blessing or an apparent hardship, in every situation one must say "Alhamdulillah." It is also very important to remember that what may seem as an apparent blessing may also indeed be a test. As Hazrat Daata Ganj Baksh ^{رحمته الله} warns us in his *Kashful Mahjoob* that, "a blessing is truly a blessing when it guides you towards Allah Almighty. If it veils you from the Giver, then it is a hardship (*bala*)." In the eloquent words of the

great 12th century CE Persian poet, Shaykh Saadi ^{رحمته الله} (translated):

*Aysh vo kya jo halaakat ka sabab ban jaae
Jis ka anjaam ho raahat vo museebat achchi*

May Allah Almighty give us the guidance (*taufeeq*) to follow in the footsteps of our pious predecessors and may He Almighty grant us a portion of their patience in our hardships and may He grant us that spiritual station (*maqam*) that we are so en-

grossed in His and His Beloved's ^ﷺ love that the hardships become invisible to us. Ameen. □

Syeda Shagufta Ahmad Qadri

COMMUNITY NEWS

Condolences: "To Allah we belong and unto Him is our return."

Please pray and do *Isaal-e-Sawab* for the following brothers and sisters who have recently passed away:

Mohammed Zohil Taiyab, Shah Sahab, Brother Abdul Raheem Dhilloo (Pakistan; Uncle of Brother Ayyaz), Illum Taj Khan (Lodi; Sister-in-law of Sister Fatima), Fazal Daad Khan (Pakistan), Roshan Khan (Pakistan), Fatima Bibi, Hajira Bibi, Abdullah Khan (Arizona), & Musa Sai (Afghanistan).

Prayers: Please pray for the health and well

being of the following brother and sisters: Nazmun Nisha, Liaquat Khan, Jamshed Khala, Kashif Saif, Bushra Siddiq, Abullah, Manaal, Uzma Jabeen, Daanial, Abdul Qudus Khan, Fauzia Khan, Moien Khan, Nazia Khan, Shafiq Khala, Sarwat jaan. Please also pray for everyone in the community who is suffering and going through difficulties.

Births: Congratulations to the following proud parents: Brother Farhan & his wife on the arrival of their son Talha Farhan Chaudhry; also to Sister Shazia from Yuba City on the arrival of her new baby boy. May Allah Almighty grant the best of both worlds to the newborns! Ameen.

Weddings: Congratulations to the newlyweds: Brother Umar & Sister Munazzam, Sister Frozan & Brother Mundhar, Sister Shahpara & Brother Hamid (Colorado). May Allah grant them immense happiness in this world and success in the Next! Ameen.

Acknowledgements: Brother Noor Bakhsh (US FijiTimes), Brother Moustafa & Sister Mary (LandMark Signs), Brother Mian Shahbaz (Pakistan Times), Sister Rana Faiz (Hamrahi Radio), Sister Sohab Hamdani (*Watr Ki Awaz*), Lisa Fernandez (San Jose Mercury News), Brother Shahid Hussain (Yuba City), Brother Ahmed Shareef, Brother Naeem & Sister Zohra, Brother Walli & Sister Hamidah, Brother Yusuf, Sister Nikhat & family, Sister Aysha Ali, Sister Shaheen Rasheed, Sister Shereen Ulla, Sister Anila & family, Anwar and Qudsiyya Khan & family (Sacramento), Munawwar and Attiya Khan & family (Sacramento), Samina Khan, Kashif and family (Colorado), Brother Irfan Ali, Allah Sultani & family, Abdul Qayyum and Jamshed Khala & family & Sister Trina Noor. May Allah Almighty bless them all for their continued support and dedication to IECRC. And may Allah bless all those brothers and sisters whose name we have not been able to mention. Ameen. □



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IECRC COMMUNITY SERVICES

Counseling Centers

The Spiritual Counseling & Healing Center is unique in that services are provided free of charge to all people, irrespective of their color, creed, race, and religion. The center serves people who come from all over the USA and abroad. Services are provided for all types of ailments that range from benign aches and pains to severe conditions such as cancer and psychological ailments. *Alhamdulillah*, by the Mercy and Power of Allah Almighty, patients with depression, migraine, hyperactivity and other serious illnesses have received benefit from our center. Counseling is provided **every Sunday evening at 37270 Niles Blvd, Fremont CA 94536. For further information please call 510-732-6786.**

Alhamdulillah, another branch providing extensive services in this area operates in Sacramento, California:

Sacramento Branch: Please call **916-669-8809** for details.

This *Sunnah* (practices of the Holy Prophet ﷺ) of Spiritual Healing in Islam is conducted through the recitation of the Holy Quran and *du'as* (prayers). There are many cases that IECRC has seen related to this dying *Sunnah* of "*Ruqya*", which can be found on the IECRC Web site (www.iecrcna.org). They are listed anonymously for the confidentiality of the patients.

Unfortunately, these days there are many people who misuse this practice; we advise our readers to be cautious.

New IECRC Sacramento Center

With the support and *duas* of the Sacramento IECRC community and Fremont IECRC, we are pleased to announce our new location in South Sacramento. This new center is located on the same premises of a new local masjid. Previously the IECRC Sacramento Chapter rented a hall for *Dhikr* twice a month where we also performed counseling during limited times of the week. With the new location, the place is available for the entire month and room and time for many other activities and events present themselves. *Alhamdu-Lillah*, we started out on the best of beginnings when IECRC Sacramento had its first event on the blessed day of 12th of *Rabi' ul-Awwal*, during which a combined Milad Shareef event took place in collaboration with the Masjid Mau-natul Islam on the same campus. *Dhikr* and *Ailaaj* are essential parts of what we do, but it was time that we moved beyond performing these only and partake in additional educational and research aspects of our organization at a greater scale. *Insha-Allah*, in the coming weeks, we will be posting a schedule of our events, classes, and counseling sessions for the rest of the year. Course descriptions for the various courses being offered at the premises for children, youth and adults is to be announced soon

Weekly *Dhikr* Gatherings

IECRC conducts weekly *Dhikr* sessions every Sunday at 4:00 PM at: **37270 Niles Blvd, Fremont CA 94536. For further information please call 510-732-6786.**

The evening comprises of Quran Recitation, *Naat-e-Rasool* (poetry in praise of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ), Educational Talk on different Islamic topics, *Dhikr* (collective recitation of Allah's Beautiful Names), *Salaam* (salutation) on the Holy Prophet ﷺ, *Fatiha* (recitation of the Holy Quran over food), Dinner (the continuing tradition of *Langar-e-Qadria*).

Similar *Dhikr* sessions are conducted in **Sacramento** at **7392 French Road, Unit #2, Sacramento, CA 95828**. Please call **916-669-8809** or visit www.iecrcna.org/zikr.html for timings and directions.

As Allah Almighty says in His Glorious Quran:

"Only in the remembrance of Allah is the solace of hearts." [13:28]
This spiritual gathering is a comprehensive solution to modern man's many ailments of stress, depression and anxiety.

Monthly *Gyaarhween Shareef*

Conducted on the 11th of every month of the Islamic Hijri calendar, this auspicious, spiritual gathering commemorates Hazrat Shaykh Abdul Qadir Jilani (may Allah be well pleased with him): his life, contributions and spiritual benefits. For further information please call:

510-475-7867, 916-669-8809, or 510-732-6786.

on www.iecrcna.org/courses.html. In the meantime, we are looking for dedicated individuals with serious study ethics, who are willing to commit themselves to complete our initial set and future set of courses in Islamic Studies. Please contact sharaaz2001@yahoo.com for details. We are most pleased with this development and with each and every respected individual who has selflessly committed to support this perpetual *sadaqa* with their dedicated support, financially, morally, and physically. It is by the *tawfeeq* of Allah, the *barakah* of our Beloved Nabi Kareem (sall-Allahu alayhe wasallam), the guidance of our Murshid and teacher, Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri (may Allah protect him), and your support that Allah has made this a reality. This is an opportunity we have been looking to achieve for a very long time and we cannot come close thanking Allah. The center is located at **7392 French Road, Unit #2, Sacramento, CA 95828**. Our contact number is **916-669-8809**. Email subscription for announcements of the center is located at <http://iecrcna.org/email.html>.

Regards,

Sharaaz Khan, Qadri (Director, IECRC Sacramento Chapter)

IECRC PUBLICATIONS

The following are IECRC publications by Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri and his research staff:

1. **Blessings on the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ:** The Meaning, Relevance & Importance of Sending Blessings and Greetings on the Best of Creation ﷺ
2. **Reviving Love for the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ:** The Solution to the Contemporary Muslim Condition
3. **Living in the Abode of Peace and Purification** (co-authored by Dr. Syeda Saiqa Zubeda)
4. **Islamic Treatment of Jinn, Magic & The Evil Eye** (co-authored by Dr. Syeda Saiqa Zubeda)
5. **Quranic Therapy: Heal Yourself Part 1**
6. **Quranic Therapy: Heal Yourself Part 2**
7. **Ramadan: The Month of Patience, Empathy & Self-Purification**
8. **Peace & Tolerance in Islam**
9. **The Muslim World: Hope in the New Millennium**
10. **The Science of Dreams**
11. **The Spirit of Islam: A Glance into the External and Spiritual Dimensions of Islamic Practice** (Sharaaz Khan Qadri)

IECRC VIDEO PRODUCTIONS

The following are IECRC video productions featuring Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri:

1. **The Truth** (5 VCDs)
2. **Learn Islamic History Through Quiz Show** (4 VCDs)
3. **Khuwab**

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IECRC AUDIO PRODUCTIONS

The following speeches by Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Qadri are available through IECRC on audio cassette:

English

1. Love of the Holy Prophet ﷺ
2. The Islamic Culture
3. The Concept of Spiritual Healing
4. Quranic Therapy - Heal Yourself (also available in print & CD)
5. Heal Yourself in the Light of Quran & Sunnah (also available in print & CD)
6. The Philosophy of Love with Allah in Tasawwuf/The Necessity of a Spiritual Guide
7. What is Tasawwuf: An Answer by Hadrat Ali bin Uthman al-Hujwari (may Allah be pleased with him) known as Hazrat Data Ganj Buksh
8. The Concept of Jinn in the Light of Quran and Sunnah
9. Islam and Soul Orientation (Dr. Manzooruddin Ahmed)

Urdu

1. *Ishq-e-Mustafa ﷺ aur Munafiqat*
2. *Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi ka Jawaz / Madina-e-Munawarra ke Naam*
3. *Durood-o-Salam Maulana Qasim Nanotwi Dar-ul-Uloom Deoband aur Maulana Mohammad Zakarya Tableeghi Jamaat ki Nazar Mein*
4. *Durood-o-Salam Ki Fazeelat*
5. *Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi ﷺ Tareekh key Ainey Mein*
6. *Allama Iqbal (rahmatullah alayh) ka Hadrat Bilal (radiallaahu anhu) ko Salam*
7. *Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi ﷺ Sawal/Jawab*
8. *Allama Iqbal ka Shikwa aur Jawab-e-Shikwa (side A) / Allama Iqbal aur Ishq-e-Mustafa ﷺ (side B)*
9. *Karamat-e-Awliya*
10. *Ey Iman Walo – CDs 1 & 2* (Dr. Mohammad Abdullah Qadri)

The following *Naats* are available through IECRC on audio cassette:

1. *Allah-hi-Allah – Sufiana Kalam* recited by Zahid Chaudry Qadri (Punjabi)
2. *Yaadey Madinah – Naat* recited by Syed Mansoor Shah (Urdu)
3. *Zikr-e-Rasool ﷺ – Naat* recited by Naveed Iqbal Rahmani (Urdu)
4. *Guldasta-e-Naat – recited* by various Naat reciters (Urdu)

IECRC's CD Releases:

1. *Allah Kay Naamon Se Apna Ilaj Kijiye – Dr. M.A. Qadri* (Urdu)
2. *Arabic Qasa'id - Shaykh Hisham Kabbani and His Ensemble*
3. *Hamd-o-Naat - Mehdi Hassan*
4. *Aqeedat Kay Phool - A collection of Hamd and Naat from Various Reciters* (Urdu)
5. *Hamd and Naat - Imani Rasheed* (English)
6. *Darbar-e-Mustafa ﷺ - Arif Mahmood* (Urdu) - NEW!

To obtain any of the above cassettes, CDs or books, please contact IECRC through telephone, email or written correspondence.

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